

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC MEETINGS (Please attend the meeting that is most convenient for you):

ROANOKE (Upper Roanoke River watershed) – Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's Roanoke Office conference room located at 3019 Peters Creek Road on **Wednesday July 29, 2009** from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Directions:** From Route 581, take the exit 2S, Peters Creek Road. After the second stop light, turn left into Brammer Village just past the Subway Restaurant. Proceed up the hill and turn right after the second set of brown buildings. Look for the DEQ sign.

BROOKNEAL (Lower Roanoke/Staunton River watershed) - Brookneal Elementary School gymnasium located at 1330 Charlotte Street on **Thursday July 30, 2009** from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Directions:** From Route 501, turn onto Charlotte Street in Brookneal. School will be on right. Doors to the gymnasium are located at the far right end of the school.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality announces a public meeting to discuss a study to restore water quality in the Roanoke (Staunton) River watershed and tributaries.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies are working with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to identify sources of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) found in fish tissue in the Upper Roanoke River watershed and Lower Roanoke (Staunton) River watershed. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) issued fish consumption advisories based on elevated PCB levels in fish tissue. Therefore, the river is not supporting the Fish Consumption Designated Use.

The following is a list of the "impaired" waters in the **Upper Roanoke River watershed** and the length of the impaired segment: Roanoke River, 28.6 miles; Tinker Creek, 5.33 miles; Peters Creek, 2.52 miles. These impairments are located in Montgomery County, Roanoke County, Salem City, Roanoke City, and/or Bedford County. These impairments will be discussed at the meeting in Roanoke, VA on Wednesday, July 29, 2009.

The following is a list of the impaired waters in the **Lower Roanoke/Staunton River watershed** and the length of the impaired segment: Roanoke (Staunton) River, 88.4 miles; Little Otter River, 14.36 miles; Cub Creek, 14.25 miles. These impairments are located in Bedford County, Campbell County, Charlotte County, Halifax County, and/or Pittsylvania County. These impairments will be discussed at the meeting in Brookneal, VA on Thursday, July 30, 2009.

During the study, EPA and the state agencies developed a Total Maximum Daily Load, or a TMDL, for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by **Thursday, August 27, 2009**. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

CONTACTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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